

DATE: April 9, 1998

SUBJECT: UNIFORMITY OF CITATION

1. The latest edition of the “Bluebook” (A Uniform System of Citation) will ordinarily be followed.

2. (a) In citing opinions of this court and its predecessors, cite as found in the Federal Reporter, and, if applicable, United States Patents Quarterly (modifies Bluebook):

Doe v. Roe, 00 F.3d 333, 33 USPQ2d 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

Roe v. Doe, 001 F.2d 222 (Fed. Cir. 1982).

Goutos v. United States, 552 F.2d 922 (Ct. Cl. 1976).

In re Sponnoble, 405 F.2d 578, 160 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1969).

(b) Cite official reports of the Court of Claims and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals only when the matter cited was not published in the Federal Reporter or in the United States Patents Quarterly:

Jones v. United States, 107 Ct. Cl. 806 (1972).

Rogers v. Smith, 35 CCPA 47 (1960).

(c) Cite this court’s opinions in appeals from the Court of International Trade and the International Trade Commission as found in the Federal Reporter; may also cite U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Int’l Trade Cases (____ Fed. Cir. (T) ____):

United States v. Roses, Inc., 706 F.2d 1563, 1 Fed. Cir. (T) 39 (1983).

3. Cite without periods in CCPA and USPQ (modifies Bluebook).
4. In citing opinions of the Court of International Trade, cite as found in the Federal Supplement. Cite official reports of that court, (69 Cust. Ct. 105) or (4 CIT 110), only where the matter cited was not published in the Federal Supplement. In citing opinions of the Claims Court, cite as found in Claims Court Reports (Cl. Ct.). For cases appearing in 1 Cl. Ct. 1 through 1 Cl. Ct. 129, cite at the first occurrence in this court's opinion the additional corresponding citation of 550 F. Supp. 669 through 555 F. Supp. 403. In citing opinions of the Court of Federal Claims, cite as found in the Federal Claims Reporter (Fed. Cl.).
5. In government contract cases, cite published opinions of Boards of Contract Appeals from the publications in which they appear, e.g: Goodyear Tire Co., ASBCA No. 12345, 74-2 BC ¶54321.
6. When an opinion has been published by a trial level tribunal in a recognized reporter, a citation thereto will be entered in the opinion of this court disposing of the appeal. When a slip opinion has been issued by a trial level tribunal and is intended for publication in a recognized reporter, but has not appeared in such reporter when our opinion is ready for issuance, the date and case number of the slip opinion will be cited in the opinion of this court. Issuance of opinions of this court will not be delayed by an effort to comply with this paragraph.
7. In citing patent and trademark opinions of other courts, cite as found in Federal Reporter or Federal Supplement and, where applicable, United States Patents Quarterly.
8. Opinions of the Supreme Court and of this court relating to this court's exclusive jurisdiction should be cited as precedent, in preference to opinions of courts no longer having jurisdiction over the subject matter with which the citation is concerned.

9. Respect for the tribunals from whose judgments and decisions appeals are taken to this court requires care in referring to those tribunals in our opinions. Reference should not be made to “the court below,” “the lower court,” “the lower tribunal,” “the judge below,” or “the CIT.” Reference should be made to, e.g., “the district court,” “the trial court,” “the district judge,” “the trial tribunal,” “the court,” or “the Court of International Trade.” The presiding officer in MSPB hearings is an “administrative judge.”